

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for treating ~~chronic inflammation~~ psoriasis, the method comprising:

~~topically~~ administering an effective amount of an inhibitor of integrin linked kinase (ILK) to a psoriatic lesion, wherein expression of ILK in psoriatic tissue correlates with severity of disease, and wherein said ILK inhibitor is a small organic molecule that ~~specifically~~ inhibits ILK activity.

2.- 14. (canceled)

15. (new) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of administering a second therapy for psoriasis.

16. (new) The method according to claim 15, wherein second therapy is selected from the group consisting of systemic therapy, ultraviolet light therapy, and topical therapy.

17. (new) The method according to claim 15, wherein said second therapy is selected from the group consisting of antibiotics, antimicrobials, cyclosporine, methotrexate, hydroxyurea, NSAIDs, sulfasalazine, 6-thioguanine, acitretin, etretinate, isotretinoin; UVB phototherapy, photochemotherapy (PUVA), anthralin, calcipotriene, coal tar, corticosteroids, and tazarotene.

18. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein said ILK inhibitor is administered systemically.

19. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein said ILK inhibitor is administered dermally.

20. (new) A method for treating psoriasis, the method comprising:

staining to determine the expression of integrin linked kinase in a psoriatic lesion, and where expression of ILK in said psoriatic lesion correlates with severity of disease;

administering an effective amount of an inhibitor of integrin linked kinase (ILK), wherein said ILK inhibitor is a small organic molecule that inhibits ILK activity.

21. (new) A method of inhibiting activity of ILK expressed in psoriatic tissue, the method comprising administering an effective amount of an inhibitor of ILK to said psoriatic tissue, wherein expression levels of ILK in said psoriatic tissue prior to inhibition correlates with severity of disease and wherein said ILK inhibitor is a small organic molecule that inhibits ILK activity.

22. (new) A method of identifying a small organic compound that capable of inhibiting ILK in psoriatic tissue comprising: providing psoriatic tissue, wherein expression level of ILK in psoriatic tissue correlates with disease state; providing a small organic molecule; contacting the psoriatic tissue with the small organic molecule; and determining whether activity of ILK in said tissue is decreased, a decrease in activity being an indication that the small organic compound inhibits ILK in psoriatic tissue.